

Merry Christmas!

Chieftain

VOLUME 53, NUMBER 3

ITAWAMBA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DECEMBER 4, 2023

Ashley Foundation donates \$500K for ICC Commercial Truck Driving program

Staff Reports

Itawamba Community College's Commercial Truck Driving program will benefit from a \$500,000 donation from the Ashley Charitable Foundation (ACF), a nonprofit organization founded by Ashley Furniture Industries, LLC and committed to supporting education and workforce development.

Among those participating in the check presentation at the Tupelo Campus were Ron Wanek, Founder and Chairman of Ashley Furniture Industries, and Dr. Jay Allen, President of Itawamba Community College. The presentation also included a special congratulatory video by Mississippi Governor Tate Reeves. This contribution marks ACF's continued dedication to partnering with higher education institutions to drive growth in the workforce.

THE PARTNERSHIP

"Itawamba Community College exemplifies successful educational programs that adequately equip students to enter the workforce," Wanek said. "We strongly believe in providing individuals with opportunities in the areas of STEM, and our partnership with Itawamba aligns perfectly with this vision." Wanek said that Ashley started in a 35,000-square-foot facility in Ecu with 35 employees and has had a strong presence in the state since 1994. "Mississippi is the best place to do business. We appreciate growing in Mississippi." The facility has expanded nine times, and Ashley now has plants in Ripley, Verona and Saltillo. Wanek noted that Ashley is the number one furniture manufacturer in the world and the number one furniture store in the United States.

In addition to the partnership with Commercial Truck Driving Technology, Wanek said that he expects collaboration with ICC in the areas of artificial intelligence and automation, which will require different skill sets. We are passionate about the furniture industry, and we continue to invest."

ICC also facilitates internships and apprenticeship opportunities, further preparing students for successful careers.

THE FUNDS

The funds from the Ashley Charitable Foundation will be used to further enhance infrastructure at ICC as it continues to expand its Commercial Truck Driving program with the construction of a new driving range just across the street from the Tupelo Campus, Allen said. Additional phases will include the construction of a storage facility for training equipment and phase three, a state-of-the-art training lab and garage. - **See Ashley Foundation donation, page four.**

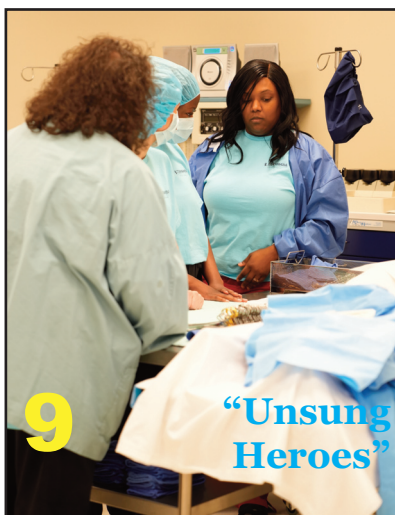


It's time for a selfie with Santa during the return of ICC's Christmas Lighting ceremony last Monday night at the Fulton Campus. See more photos, page eleven.

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VIEWPOINT
DONNA THOMAS
Chieftain Adviser

Life lessons
and more stuff

When no one on the staff signs up for a commentary (they have a choice) but selected other articles, it is my responsibility to fill the space.

So...what can I say that will be of interest to those who are many, many years younger than I?

The other day I saw a couple of articles on life lessons, and I believe they are definitely worth sharing...with a few comments of my own.

The first included honesty, good manners, healthy food selection, respect, losing gracefully, time management, responsibility, compassion and forgiving, the joy of learning and money management.

I try very hard to abide by these rules, but a few of them are problematic.

I guess the category healthy food selections doesn't include a super supreme pizza laced with gooey cheese, unless maybe black olives could be healthy.

And, I could possibly work on time management a bit because I waited until the LAST MINUTE to write this. Procrastination is definitely an issue for me.

Money management could also be added to my "have to work on it" list because I'm an impulse buyer. I switch over to QVC, and no matter what they are selling, I'll get on that app and click buy now.

How do you rate according to the list?

Let's move on to the second advice article.

These tips are among those shared by a 95-year old gentleman.

He advises, among other suggestions, to return what you borrow, don't blame others, admit your mistakes, listen more and talk less, strive for excellence and not perfection, be on time, don't make excuses, get organized and say please and thank you.

He encourages individuals to treat everyone as they want to be treated, leave everything a little better than you found it, become the most positive and enthusiastic person you know, say thank you a lot, say please a lot, be the first to say hello and count your blessings.

The one about strive for excellence and perfection definitely applies to me...I admit I am a perfectionist, but everything can't be perfect. I would have less stress if I realized that. What about you?

As Christmas approaches, we should be generous to the less fortunate because there are so many who are. It's not our place to judge them...just help if you can.

Some of you work at fast food restaurants, maybe at the drive-thru window. Wouldn't you appreciate a small tip, even just a dollar or two? It feels great to be appreciated. Or, if you can, pay for the next person in line behind you. I was in line a few Saturdays ago and as I approached the window and handed my cash to the person in the window, she said 'the person in front of you paid.' What an awesome feeling I had all day just because of that one random act of kindness.

We should enjoy the moment we are in. They say that wisdom comes with age, and the gentleman is correct. We should count our blessings. Every. Single. Day.

This Christmas, let's make a difference in the lives of others and be grateful for what we have. Together, we can put smiles on the faces of others and joy in their hearts.

Opinion
Poll

“
What
is
your
favorite
Christmas
memory?
”

Staff Reports

“My family and I traveled to Pontotoc to exchange gifts with cousins, like secret Santa!” - Jaymie Griffin, Belden

“One time, I got a Frozen Elsa castle and an Elsa and Ana doll and they sang, ‘Let it go.’” - Alona Jo Finley, Algoma

“My parents woke my sisters and I up really early and we all went to the living room to celebrate. We had a doll house and a huge transformer doll, which we set in the house.” - Laken Harlow, Pontotoc

“When I still believed in Santa, maybe I was about five, I had the habit of waking up in the middle of the night for water. On Christmas Eve night, I caught my grandfather and dad putting a huge doll house under the tree. They didn't catch me, and I played it off because I didn't want to ruin their spirit. That doll house was custom!” - Mackenzie Sneed, Pontotoc

“Getting to spend Christmas with family and open gifts and eat good food.” - Elijah Coleman, Tupelo

“When I was about 12, I ran into my grandma's house, so happy to see them. I lost my grandpa almost two years ago. We opened so many great gifts...I remember my grandparents' hugs..and I almost feel that I can relive that moment repeatedly.” - Breana Nix, Pontotoc

“My last Christmas with my grandmother,” - Alea Hudson, New Albany

“A couple of years ago, there were elderly church members who couldn't attend our services. We rode to their houses and sang Christmas carols for them and had a little devotional. It was a joy for me to bring them Christmas cheer!” - Shelby Franks, Fulton

VIEWPOINT
CORNELIUS EDMOND
Chieftain Staff - 2016

Tis the season
for kindness

It's finally December, better known as "the most wonderful time of the year," and for the most part, giving and receiving gifts is one of the key festivities for most of us.

We all know how great it feels to be on the receiving end when it comes to gifts, but the joy of giving is even more satisfying.

True holiday spirit is about giving to those in need. Our lives are more fulfilled when we go the extra mile to help someone else, whether it's by giving or just by expressing a simple act of kindness.

Most of us fall short of this, especially when it pertains to someone outside our social circle or family, but it is important to give more than to receive, whether it is a special person in your life or a random individual we know and see at Fulton, Tupelo or Belden or in class or at your job.

The holiday season can be quite overwhelming, especially for those who are spending it without a specific loved one or those who might not have the funds to indulge in buying gifts.

You could make the holidays a bit brighter for the unfortunate by giving back. That doesn't mean draining your bank account but to give in a way that doesn't require a ton of money. Just give something that shows that you care and that you are grateful enough to put your own needs aside so that someone else can have a better holiday season. Isn't that what this time of year is truly about?

Ways that you can be sure to have a positive impact on someone's life this holiday season include taking the time to spread kindness and good, positive energy wherever you go.

You could also visit a local nursing home and spend a few hours interacting with and uplifting the residents with carols, small gifts and casual conversation. It would mean so much for so many of the residents who have few, if any, visitors. It's always important to give back to our elders, who have given so much to us.

Most of all, just be grateful for all that you have. Let your grateful spirit speak for you.

Giving is a beautiful thing, and it is a part of life that we should practice as often as we possibly can, not just during the holiday season, but throughout the year.

Your kindness and generosity can be contagious. It doesn't take a lot of money, only a little time. Why don't you try it...and see if others catch it too?

Chieftain staff
needed!
To apply, email
dsthomas@iccms.edu

Chieftain 50

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The Chieftain is available online only and is posted three times each semester.

Views expressed in this newspaper are not necessarily those of the faculty and administration.

Itawamba Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate's degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404.679.4500 for questions about the accreditation of Itawamba Community College.

Itawamba Community College is an equal opportunity institution. The College strictly prohibits discrimination in its educational programs and activities, employment practices and admissions processes on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion, ethnicity, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, status as a U.S. veteran or other status protected by applicable law. For more information, contact the Vice President of Student Services, 602 West Hill Street, Fulton, MS 38843, 662.862.8271, or email TitleIXCoordinator@iccms.edu.



Faculty SPOTLIGHT

Danny Oswalt

English Instructor

FAMILY: A lifelong resident of Fairview, which is north of Fulton, he and his wife, Cheryl, met in church when they were in junior high. Although he said it was “NOT love at first sight,” they celebrated their 40th anniversary this year. They have two grown children, Anna Catherine Oswalt-Daher and Jon Ryan Oswalt, both ICC graduates. Their daughter is an English instructor at Northeast Mississippi Community College; son, principal at Church Hill Elementary in West Point; and daughter-in-law, professor in the College of Education at Mississippi State University. He has five grandchildren, Scarlett, 8; Finn, 7; Ruby, 3; Roselia, 3; and Poppy, 11 months.

EDUCATION: Graduate of Itawamba High School; Itawamba Community College, A.A.; Mississippi State University, B.S.; and University of Mississippi, M.Ed.



WHAT DO YOU CURRENTLY TEACH OR HAVE TAUGHT: New to ICC this year, he previously taught dual credit English Composition I and II and English IV. This semester at the Fulton Campus, he is teaching English Composition I and II, American Literature I and Improvement of Study.

POSITIVE ASPECTS OF TEACHING: “One of my favorite parts of teaching is my associations with and interactions with students.”

NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF TEACHING: “Grading is the hardest part of teaching, but it is just part of an English instructor’s life.”

WORDS OF ADVICE FOR FUTURE STUDENTS: “Set goals, work hard, seek help and know you are never alone. Persistence, patience, resourcefulness and hard work are the keys to success in college.”

FUN FACT: “I was the “voice” of Itawamba Indian football (high school) for nearly 30 years, and I love British television.”

SHELBY FRANKS
Chieftain Staff

Pom Squad already at work

Staff Reports

Itawamba Community College has selected its Pom Squad for 2023-24.

Members include Brandi Deloach of **Caledonia**; Chloe Digby of **Fulton**; Katlyn Strickland of **Greenwood Springs**; McKenzie Armstrong of **Guntown**; India Pittman of **Houston**; K’Lee Capps,

Madalynn Minica, both of **Nettleton**; Brianna Marino of **Pearl**; Maggie Kimble of **Pontotoc**; Krystyna Burenok of **Saltillo**; Henleigh Berry and Saja Darwish, both of **Tupelo**.

ICC’s Pom Squad performs at home basketball games. The director is Christy Colburn of Amory.



Aspen Institute ranks ICC in top 150 nationwide

Staff Reports

The Aspen Institute has named Itawamba Community College as one of the 150 institutions eligible to compete for the \$1 million Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, the nation’s signature recognition of high achievement and performance among two-year colleges.

The institutions selected for this honor stand out among more than 1,000 community colleges nationwide as having high improving levels of student success as well as equitable outcomes for Black and Hispanic students and those from lower-income backgrounds.

“It is a tremendous honor for Itawamba Community College to be selected as one of the top 150 community colleges in the nation and to be afforded the opportunity to compete for the significant Aspen Prize,” said ICC President Dr. Jay Allen. “It is another indication of the success of the College, its continuing status as a premier community college and a testament to out exceptional faculty and staff, without whom it would not be possible.”

ICC was selected as a top community college in 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019 and 2021 and as a

semifinalist in 2023.

The Aspen Prize spotlights exemplary community colleges in order to drive attention to colleges achieving postgraduate success for all students and is a central way Aspen research highlights effective student success strategies that are shared with the field. The 150 eligible colleges have been invited to submit success data and narrative about strategies to achieve better and more equitable student outcomes as the next step in an intensive review process that culminates in the naming of the Aspen Prize winner in spring 2025. The eligible colleges represent the diversity and depth of the community college sector. Located in urban, rural and suburban areas across 31 states, these colleges serve as few as 169 students and as many as 49,619.

“The Aspen Prize is rooted first and foremost in an assessment of whether colleges are walking the walk,” said Josh Wyner, executive director of the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program. “As community colleges face enrollment variations, enroll students with pandemic-related learning loss and graduate students into a rapidly changing labor market, it is easy to lose track of what mat-

ters most. The best community colleges are continuing to focus on advancing the core mission: making sure as many students as possible graduate with the credentials that lead to fulfilling careers and reflect the development of diverse talent that communities, states and our nation need.”

While community colleges are an essential contributor to our nation’s success, student outcomes vary substantially among institutions. Aspen measures those variances using multiple data sources and honors colleges with outstanding achievement in six critical areas: teaching and learning, certificate and degree completion, transfer and bachelor’s attainment, workforce success, equitable access to the college and equitable outcomes for both students of color and those from low-income backgrounds.

In the first round, eligibility for the Aspen Prize is based on publicly available data. Colleges must show strong, improving and equitable student outcomes in first-to-second year retention, credentials awarded and completion and transfer rates. Announcement of the 25 finalists will be in April 2024, and the top 10, June 2024.



The Next Step

Itawamba Community College students had the opportunity to visit with representatives of four-year educational institutions during a College and University Transfer Fair, Nov. 1. Among those participating was the University of Mississippi - Oxford.



College
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FALL 2023

- Nov. 29-
Dec. 4** Registration continues through the Advising Center if faculty adviser is not available
- Dec. 4-7** Final exams for traditional full-term night, eLearning second eight-week and eLearning four-week classes
- Dec. 6-7** Final exams for traditional full-term
- Dec. 14** Offices close at 5 p.m. for Christmas/ New Year's holidays
- Jan. 3** Offices reopen after the holidays.

For the latest on ICC's scheduled events and activities, www.iccms.edu.

Fall 2023
Exam Schedule

Staff Reports

DAY CLASSES

Reg. Mtg.	Exam Time
MW 8/8:15/8:25	12.6 8-10
MW 9:25 a.m.	12.6 10:15-12:15
MW 10:50	12.7 8-10
MW 2:25/3/3:20	12.6 1-3
TR 8/8:25	12.5 8-10
TR 9:25	12.5 10:15-12:15
TR 10:50	12.7 10:15-12:15
TR 12:35	12.5 1-3
TR 2:25	12.7 1-3
F 8/8:15	12.8 8-10
F 10:50	12.8 10:15-12:15

NIGHT CLASSES

Reg. Mtg.	Exam Date
Monday	Monday, Dec. 4
Tuesday	Tuesday, Dec. 5
Wednesday	Wednesday, Dec. 6
Thursday	Thursday, Dec. 7



Students in ICC's Early Childhood Technology receive practical experience at the Early Learning Centers.

Allen shares
ICC insights

ALEA HUDSON
Chieftain Staff

Last week, ICC President Dr. Jay Allen shared insights on the college's achievements, key priorities and future direction.

"Infrastructure remains our top funding priority need," he said. "Operating a college established in 1948, we have some buildings that are still original. With continued enrollment increases and the shift of student needs in today's world, the infrastructure needs are necessary for our continued success of our offerings through academics, career education, continuing education and student/community engagement."

Currently Allen serves as the chair of the MACC Workforce Education committee that focuses on workforce and career funding. "Efforts are made all year long by all 15 community colleges across the state. The

yearly priorities for the system are set by the 15 community college presidents that make up the Mississippi Association of Community Colleges. We are blessed with our positive relationships with House and Senate leadership that enable us to have open door conversations about needs and issues that may arise. Rep. Donnie Bell, an ICC alum and one of our local state reps, has been a champion for community colleges, specifically regarding additional funding needed in workforce and career education for years."

Allen expressed gratitude for ongoing support. "We are beyond thankful for the continued support by our friends in the legislature and our local counties that support ICC financially. We will continue to tell our story and share the impact that ICC has on our region, which speaks volumes about its return on investment."

ICC celebrates
children

Staff Reports

The calendar pages are turning rapidly. Excitement and anticipation fill our days, hours and minutes...and most importantly, the sights and sounds of children, eagerly awaiting Christmas Eve, the most magical time of the year.

Children...we must celebrate them every day, because, you see, they are our future. They need love, nurturing and attention, all of which are free. Sometimes, it's good to remember what it's like to be a child...and seeing the world through their eyes.

As the world rushes to prepare for the holidays, specifically Christmas, with making lists and checking them twice, it wouldn't be a bad idea for us to stop for just a few minutes and reflect on those days when we were eagerly awaiting the arrival of Santa...an early bedtime, but little sleep as any sound could have been his reindeer.

Christmas and every other day should be the "day of the child" just as the recent commemoration of "World Day of the Child."

There are many ways that we can celebrate with children every day and in doing so, encourage them to become adults who remember their childhood. Many of them are free or cost very little.

According to Holly Weeden, ICC Early Childhood program director, here are a few suggestions for Christmas, although some could work every day...make a wreath, do a good deed, visit a nursing home and sing carols, make a meal or dessert for a shut in or a family in need, play games by the tree, make a Christmas gift to brighten someone's day, write a letter to Santa, have a gift wrap race, sleep by the Christmas tree, make your own holiday cards, walk around your neighborhood and sing carols as a family to see the decorations, make tree ornaments out of paper, go caroling, take a gently-used toy or game to a collection station for another child to love, have family story time or write a letter to a soldier.

Although ICC's Early Childhood program is fully online, its majors have an opportunity to observe, interact and teach children 3-5 years of age in an environment that practices current principles of early childhood education. Children in its Early Learning Centers at both the Fulton and Tupelo Campus are cared for in a safe, nurturing environment. Their philosophy is that children learn best by doing and being actively engaged in the learning process. Play is a child's work.

It's up to us to engage children, to participate in their play, to transfer our life lessons to them along the way to help them to grow into the best adults they can be...not only at Christmas, but every single day...because they are our future...and that's definitely worth celebrating!

Ashley Foundation donation
From page one

"After years of productive conversation with Mr. Wanek and his outstanding marketing team, we are honored to accept this donation of a half million dollars to the ICC Foundation, Inc.," Allen said. This sig

"It is a testament to the enduring commitment of our community and industry partners to the success of our students and the advancement of our programs. Those community partnerships allow us to expand educational opportunities not only for our students, but also for our region and beyond. These collaborations will enable us to offer a broader range of programs, training and resources that di-

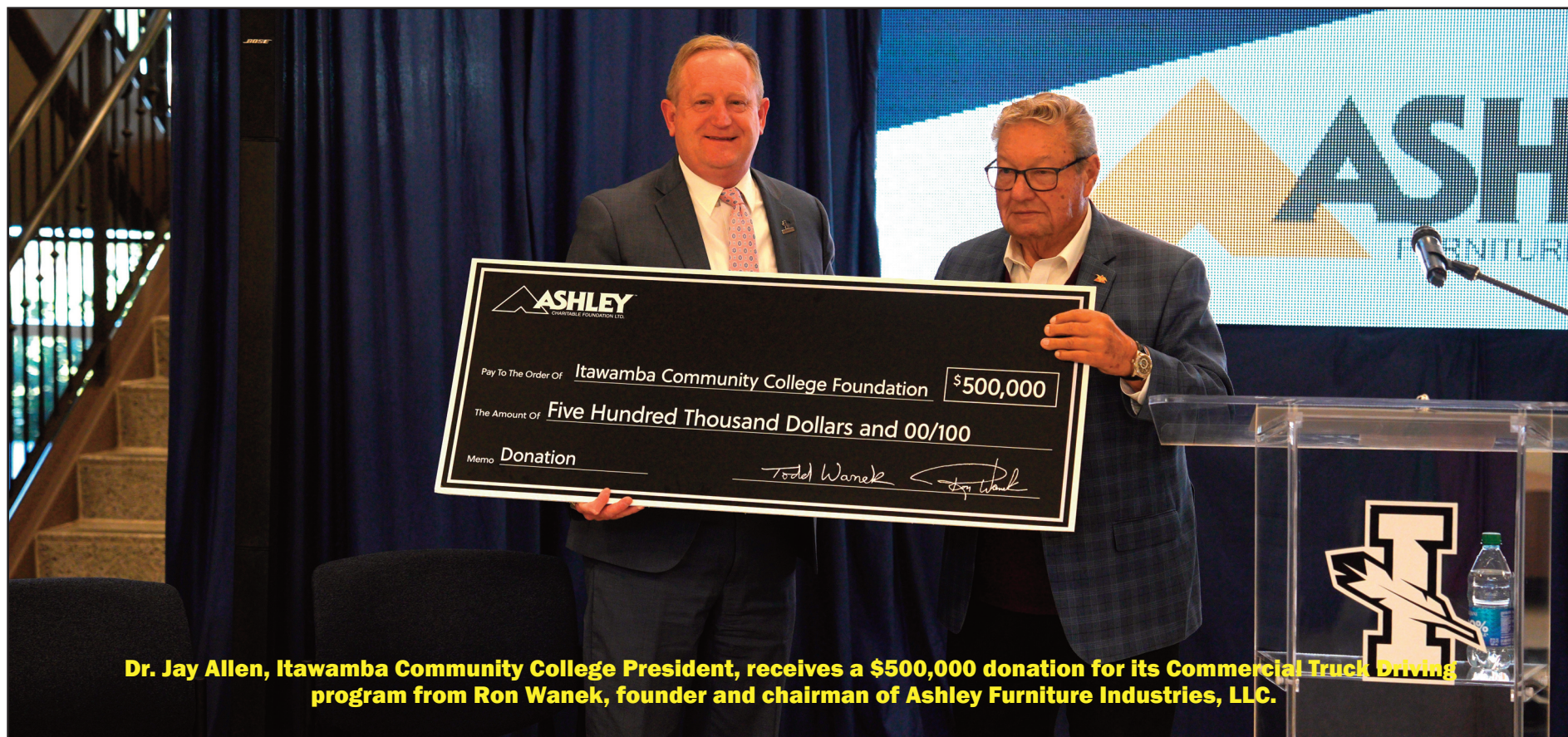
rectly address the needs of our local job market. We can ensure that our curriculum is aligned with the skills and knowledge that are in demand, ultimately preparing our students for successful careers.

ICC's Commercial Truck Driving program prepares individuals to drive Class A semi trucks and other commercial vehicles and is designed to give the future driver a complete and thorough knowledge of logbooks, trip records and the motor carrier safety regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.

In his congratulatory remarks,

Gov. Tate Reeves expressed appreciation to the Ashley Charitable Foundation, Ashley Furniture Industries, LLC and Itawamba Community College. "I'm excited to congratulate Itawamba Community College on receiving this incredibly generous donation from Ashley Charitable Foundation for your Commercial Truck Driving program...A big thank you to Mr. Ron and the entire team at Ashley Furniture for making this incredible investment into one of our state's amazing community colleges...Your generosity has truly moved us all. To ICC, I am confident that today's investment will help strengthen your efforts in meeting the

needs of your communities. Mississippi has seen tremendous success due in large part to our community colleges and workforce development efforts. These opportunities and investments aren't just helping us succeed in the present, but they are helping us build a long-term pathway to more comprehensive training and business opportunities. In short, we are just getting started. There is no question that our trucking industry will see the positive benefits from this historic donation for generations to come...Thank you, all, for helping to make this state that we love an even better place."



Dr. Jay Allen, Itawamba Community College President, receives a \$500,000 donation for its Commercial Truck Driving program from Ron Wanek, founder and chairman of Ashley Furniture Industries, LLC.



Meeting Room

CLUB NEWS & CALENDAR

FULTON CAMPUS

Archery Club	Ethan Cruse	862.8233
Art Club	Shawn Whittington	862.8301
Bass Club	Dylan Hart	862.8333
Chieftain	Donna Thomas	862.8244
Comm. Chiefs	Jessi Stevenson	862.8308
Computer Club	Bradley Howard	862.8140
Disc Golf	discgolf@iccms.edu	
Diversity Club	Dr. Michelle Clouse	862.8050
Educators Rising	Chris Cox	862.8181
	Bobby Jarrell	862.8183
ESports	Dakota Hall	862.8331
Fashion Tribe	Taylor Tutor	862.8281
	C.J. Adams	862.8074
Forestry Club	Emily Loden Jones	862.8147
Global Experience	Jessi Stevenson	862.8308
	Dr. Edana Nail	862.8056
ICC Films	Morgan Cutturini	862.8167
ICC Honors College	Heather McCormick	862.8191
ICC Orient. Leaders	Michael Holloway	862.8428
Indian Delegation	Michael Holloway	862.8428
Man UP	Deon Triplett	
Mirror	C.J. Adams	862.8074
Modern Language	Anna Begnaud	862.8292
Phi Theta Kappa	Makela Salmon	
Sigma Kappa Delta	Keith Morris	862.8326
	Anna Begnaud	862.8292
	Jenny Bowers	620.5112
	Dr. Ashley Craig	862.8326
	Nathan Ward	862.8164
Social Media Amb.	Maggie Caldwell	862.8241
Social Science	Megan Eidt	620.5044
	Masha Laney	862.8023
Student Act. Board	Taylor Tutor	862.8281
STEM	Bradley Howard	862.8140
	Heather McCormick	862.8191
	Dr. Jada Mills	862.8369
STEP Club	Iris Newsome	862.8328
Student Gov. Assn.	Dr. Chad Case	862.8232
	Dr. Brad Boggs	862.8271
	Taylor Tutor	862.8181
Theatre	Dr. Laurie McBride	862.8307

TUPELO CAMPUS

Archery Club	Ethan Cruse	862.8233
Bass Club	Dylan Hart	862.8333
Comp. Prog./Net.	Dr. Delena Hukle	620.5163
	Cindy Layman	620.5116
Disc Golf	Michelle Pruitt	862.8296
Diversity Club	Dr. Michelle Clouse	862.8050
Fashion Tribe	Taylor Tutor	862.8281
	C.J. Adams	862.8074
Future Rad. Tech.	Dr. Paul Crum	620.5233
Future Resp. Ther.	Adam Denton	620.5238
Global Experience	Jessi Stevenson	862.8308
	Dr. Edana Nail	862.8056
Indian Delegation	Michael Holloway	862.8428
Legal Ed. Assn.	Haley Carpenter	620.5342
	Dr. Bo Rowland	620.5340
MOSA	Dr. Lauren Asters	620.5208
NCF	Linda Bond	620.5210
OTA	Dee Dee Lomenick	620.5026
Phi Theta Kappa	Jenny Bowers	620.5045
	Dr. Delena Hukle	620.5163
	Dr. Ira Lindsay Jones	620.5043
STEM Club	Heather McCormick	862.8191
	Dr. Jada Mills	862.8369
	Bradley Howard	862.8140
Student Gov. Assn.	Maggie Caldwell	862.8241
	Taylor Tutor	862.8281
SHIMA	Donna Vaughn	620.5123
Student PTA Club	Dr. Cheryl Ware	620.5025

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

BSU	Matt Stark	862.3278
FCA		
Wesley Foundation	Zac Cox	255.2339

**For more information
on ICC clubs
and organizations,
www.iccms.edu.**

ATTENTION!

**Register
NOW
for the spring '24
semester!!**



My “Best Start”
Alumnus Karis Cox Pannell discusses her career and start at Itawamba Community College with area Emerging Scholars at a luncheon to honor seniors with a 24+ ACT score.

ICC alum returns to alma mater to share story with Emerging Scholars

Staff Reports

About five years ago, Pontotoc native and resident Karis Cox Pannell graduated from Itawamba Community College.

Today she is a Certified Public Accountant, specializing in tax planning, strategy and consulting for both individuals and businesses. She is a 2017 graduate of South Pontotoc High School, and her journey has included both bachelor's and master's degrees from Mississippi State University, and most recently, recipient of the prestigious Fred T. Neely Gold Medal awarded to the student who has the highest GPA exam score in the state and passes all four sections on the first try. Oh, and by the way, that journey has also included a wedding with husband Landon a year and a half ago.

Recently she came “home” to

ICC where she had an opportunity to share her story with area high school honor students during an Emerging Scholars luncheon.

“Starting college is a significant step in your life, and it’s an opportunity to shape your future,” she said. “I decided I wanted to major in accounting back in high school, and numbers just made sense to me. However, the career I am in still allows me to be creative and flexible in my ideas, giving me the best of both worlds.”

In addition to sharing information about an accounting career, Pannell said her best start came at ICC. Among the advantages, she noted, are affordable, preparation for the next level, transfer opportunities, engaging classes and activities, diverse programs/faculty, supportive community and personal attention.”

“I graduated from South Pontotoc, which is a smaller school, as most in our area are,” Pannell said. “I was pretty nervous about the transition to college. I was worried about going from somewhere that I knew every single classmate to somewhere that I turned out to be just another student. ICC served a great bridge from one stage of life to the next.”

At ICC, Pannell was a member of Phi Theta Kappa and the inaugural Travel Tribe, which is now the Global Experience. At MSU, she was a member of Beta Alpha Psi, Stephen D. Lee Scholar, graduate assistant and recipient of the outstanding graduate student award (4.0 average).

Currently, she is a Tax Associate at Byrne Zizzi, CPA in the Tupelo office.

ICC selects Christy Colburn as Humanities Teacher recipient

Staff Reports

Christy Colburn of Amory has been selected as ICC’s Mississippi Humanities Teacher Award recipient for 2024.

Colburn will be among those honored at the Mississippi Humanities Council Awards Ceremony in March 2024 at the Two Mississippi Museums in Jackson. The event pays tribute to outstanding faculty in traditional humanities fields at each of the state’s institutions of higher learning.

In her 25th year as a music educator, Colburn serves as associate band director at ICC. Her responsibilities include conducting the concert band, applied woodwind studio, mixed woodwind ensemble, Rush Hour Saxophone Quartet, CenterStage show choir and color guard director/choreographer and teaches music appreciation. As needed, she also coaches the Indi-



Christy Colburn

anettes and the spring pom squad.

A graduate of Aberdeen High School, Colburn earned the associate’s degree from the University of Mississippi. She was color guard captain and choreographer and started the first winter guard at ICC while a student. She held multiple leadership roles while at the University of Mississippi, in-

cluding captain and choreographer for the Pride of the South color guard, Tau Beta Sigma officer, vocalist in the Ole Miss Early Music Ensemble, director/creator of the Ole Miss Winter Guard, teaching assistant for the Pride of the South Marching Band and Graduate Student of the Year. Before joining the ICC family, she was assistant band director at South Panola and Tupelo.

Colburn has been involved with the pageantry arts as a performer, choreographer, designer, instructor and adjudicator for the past 33 years. Her competitive winter guard teams have earned eight first-place state championship medals participating with the Mississippi Indoor Association and two first-place championship medals with the Southeastern Color Guard Circuit. - **See ICC Humanities Teacher, page nine.**

getinvolved@iccms.edu



Want To Know More?

FULTON CAMPUS

Information on **Contact**

Academic Honors	Admissions
Activities Calendar	V.P. of Student Services
Admissions/Records	Admissions
Advanced Placement	V.P. of Instructional Services
Athletics	Athletic Director
Band	Band Director
Books/Supplies	Bookstore
Career Planning	Adviser/Advising Center
Car Registration Decals	Campus Police
Change of Adviser/Major	Advising Center
Change in Curriculum	Adviser/Student Affairs
Counseling	Student Affairs
Counseling (Personal)	V.P. of Student Services
Course Placement	V.P. of Instructional Services
Evaluation of Credits	Admissions
Examinations	Instructor
Faculty Office Hours	Instructor
Graduation Req.	Admissions
I.D. Cards	Student Affairs
Intramurals/Activities	Coor. of Student Activities
Library	Director of Libraries
Log-Ins/PINs	TIS Help Desk
Parking	Campus Police
Part-Time Jobs	Student Affairs
Placement Testing	Student Affairs
Publicity/Publications	Community Relations
Registration	Admissions
Schedule Changes	Adviser
Schedule Planning	Adviser
Scholarships	Financial Aid
Student Aid/Work Study	Financial Aid
Student Government	Coor. of Student Activities
Student Organizations	Sponsors
Summer School.....	Student Affairs
	V.P. of Instructional Services
Testing (Career)	Career Center
Transcripts	Admissions
Tuition, Fees, Deferrals	Business office
Use of Campus Property	V.P. of Student Services
Veterans Affairs	Financial Aid

TUPELO CAMPUS

Admissions/Records	Student Affairs
Advanced Placement Credit ..	VP, Instructional Services
Books and Supplies	Bookstore
Career Planning.....	Adviser/Career Center
Car Registration/Decals	Campus Police
Counseling	Student Affairs
Evaluation of Credits	Admissions
I.D. Cards	Student Affairs
Job Placement	Career Center
Library	Library
Log-Ins/PINs	TIS Help Desk
Parking	Campus Police
Registration/Early-Reg.	Student Affairs
Schedule Planning	Student Affairs
Scholarships	Financial Aid
Student Activities	Student Affairs
Student Aid.....	Financial Aid
Student Government	Coor. of Student Activities
Transcripts	Student Affairs
Tuition and Fees.....	Business office
Veterans Affairs	Financial Aid

BELDEN CENTER

Adult Ed./High School Equivalency	Audra Perry
Career Education.....	Dylan Baldwin
Continuing Education	Josh Gammill
WIOA.....	Brad Gates
Workforce.....	Barry Emison

**Contact information available
at www.iccms.edu
by clicking on the
area of interest or by searching
the college directory
at the same location.**

ICC selects Orientation Leaders

Staff Reports

ICC has selected leaders for the 2024 freshman orientation sessions which begin in April.

They include Jasmier Coleman, Brandi DeLoach, Aubrey Eaton, Anna Beth Gray, Alivia Harris, Braden Holcombe, Alea Hudson, Ella Huey, Callie Kelton, Maggie Kimble, Lauren Lee, Emma Mask, Hayes Merritt, Brooke Miller, Addison Pletzke, Natalie Ryals, Ally Thompson, Abi Grace Warren, Knox Watterer and Whitt Willis.

They will meet incoming freshmen during multiple sessions planned during spring and summer 2024 orientation at both the Fulton and Tupelo campuses.

Among their duties are to lead small group activities, conduct campus/location tours and provide information about ICC.



ICC students view the latest exhibit of competition entries that is on display in the W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center gallery at the Fulton Campus through Dec. 7.

ICC art show includes student competition entries

Staff Reports

Itawamba Community College's Student Art Competition is currently on display in the W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center gallery at the Fulton Campus.

Works from a variety of media including drawings, paintings, sculpture, ceramics and computer art are included. The show will be juried by Tom Douglas, former member of the ICC Art faculty.

The show includes works by Owen Beasley, Makenzie Nevins, both of **Amory**; Karol Arias-Little, Cayden Rogers, both of **Belden**; Breanna Isaac of **Choctaw**; Bree Ana Bennett, Lexi Grant, Keyelle Holder, Aiden

Hunter, Emily Tibbs, all of **Fulton**; Versie Lucille Laher of **Glen**; Vega Taylor of **Greenwood Springs**; Alli Porter of **Guntown**; Meradith Gaudet of **Hamilton**; Dakota Fuller of **Milton, Fla.**; Monserrat Garcia, Micah Hatfield, both of **Mooreville**; Jackson Bynum of **Nettleton**; Taylor Babbitt of **Plantersville**; Connor Coker, Michaela Lopez, Mak Masters, Isiah Pannell, Emily Sauerwein, Jamarion Shannon, David Tucker, all of **Pontotoc**; Ahmad Cox of **Prairie**; Molly Pennington, Sebastian Raines, Abby Roberts, all of **Saltillo**; Christopher Smith of **Shannon**; Kylee Rafnson of

Southaven; Jarques Madison of **Starkville**; Sarah Brown, Kali Dalton, both of **Tremont**; Charles Crayton, Aurora Gibson, Tamariana Hoskins, Olivia King, Taylon Land, Bryan Martinez, Kyleigh McKee, Noah Sartin, Meliah Senter, Nailah Slatter, Hailley Springer, Agnes Leigh Strickland, Aleyah Trimble and Connor Wood, all of **Tupelo**.

The work will be on display through Dec. 7. Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Thursday. Admission is free. For more information, contact Shawn Whittington at eswhittington@iccms.edu or call (662) 862-8301.

PTK members start to work on Honors in Action project

MACKENZIE SNEED

Chieftain Staff

Every year, Phi Theta Kappa has an Honors in Action project, which helps students engage in the community and develop skills as leaders, according to Makela Salmon, director of Honors and PTK. Each chapter is asked to pick a topic to express throughout the college and community. ICC's Fulton Campus chapter, Upsilon Sigma, has chosen to focus on the theme of soul of play.

With this theme, the research officers are looking to study how the creative process produces a creation of its own by affecting parts of our lives, Salmon said. "Our officers are conducting research on how play and creativity impact how students pick their majors."

"The goal of this project is to learn how play and creativity correspond with learning habits, interests and aspirations students tend to develop," according to Salmon in explaining the theme's goal. "We want to provide something to evoke a sense of play in students' learning environment and help make an impact choosing what they may want to do."

ICC's Honors College officers chose this less-heavily researched topic to better understand how play impacts who individuals are and how they choose to create.

The goal is to focus on impacting the community through different methods of student development and learning. The Honors research team will focus on impact learning and development through the creative process, Salmon explained. The incentive of their research is to steer learning away from technology and to a more interactive, creative manner.

The chapter plans to express this topic by generating more opportunities for students to use their creative abilities. The Honors College will host activities during Exam Cram to encourage students to get creative and prevent burnout, Salmon noted. They will also survey students to better understand the aspects which may have helped them pick their chosen major. The Honors College will also collaborate with those on the Fulton Campus to keep enthusiasm in education through creativity to give students a break to refresh and form a greater understanding of whom they chose to be.

In the spring, the Honors College plans to partner with Dorsey Elementary, Tremont Middle School and Itawamba Agricultural High School to give back. Salmon suggests that "this can mean anything from giving art supplies to developing activities all students can enjoy. The Honors College

chose to work with students of all different age groups to better understand the impact play has on developing whom we chose to be."

Salmon mentioned a project in which "Itawamba Agricultural High School has a common area students use between classes. Depending on the direction, the Honors College plans to provide short activities to do as they wait to engage in more creative pursuits and take attention away from technology."

Salmon said that the Honors College has partnered with students, other organizations in the school and the community to give back to local schools. "We want to help further interactive education and encourage a love for learning!"

Salmon also says that the Honors College plans to survey students to better understand how the soul of play impacts what students intend to pursue throughout their educational career. The survey prompt is "How did they find this interest? What led them to enjoying this?"

The chapter intends to focus on experimental learning opportunities for students to impact their education with topics and projects to help develop skills, Salmon said.



ICC Automotive Technology instructor Brad Crowder demonstrates “tricks of the trade” recently in his shop at the Tupelo Campus.

Tips from Automotive Technology

Is your vehicle ready for winter?

Staff Reports

With a small taste of winter but rebounding temperatures, it's time to winterize our vehicles before the thermometer plummets again.

According to Itawamba Community College's Automotive Technology instructor Brad Crowder, it's best to have your car serviced by a professional for winter conditions. That means to have its battery and coolant tested, inspect the brakes and check belts, hoses, spark plugs, wires and cables. “Battery power decreases as the temperature drops, meaning that it takes more power to start your car in the winter,” Crowder said. As far as coolant, the recommended ratio is between 50/50 and 70/30 of antifreeze to water. “Ask your technician what antifreeze should be used for

your vehicle and the appropriate coolant-to-water ratio to prevent against corrosion and potential freezing.”

Additional vital steps to take in winterization include inspecting your tires, changing the oil and wiper blades, keeping the washer fluid full and the gas tank at least half full, the front and rear window defrosters in working order and packing a winter safety kit, Crowder said.

“Inspect the tread depth of your tires,” Crowder advised. “To determine whether there is enough tread on your vehicle, insert a penny into one of the grooves between the treads. Lincoln's head needs to be facing you, and his head should be upside down. Do this in 10-15 areas of the tire. If you see all of Lincoln's head, the tread depth is less than

2/32 of an inch, meaning the tire is worn down and you must replace your tires. Checking the tire pressure could warn of a severely deflated tire that could result in a blowout, leaving you stranded on the highway for hours in the bitter cold.”

Crowder said that lighter weight oil is important to start an engine in cold weather as is a strong battery. “Check the owner's manual to determine the proper engine oil weight.” He advised that wiper blades should be changed if they look dry and brittle or leave streaks of liquid on the windshield.

“Check the windshield fluid tank frequently,” Crowder cautioned. “Make sure the liquid selected will not freeze when the temperature hits zero or minus 20 degrees

Fahrenheit. Carry a gallon of windshield fluid so you can quickly refill the container under the hood.”

Little things like keeping gas in the tank and ensuring that window defrosters are in working order should be a priority as well. “A full tank could be the only thing that keeps you warm until help arrives if you're ever stranded. And being unable to see forward and behind could create unsafe driving conditions.”

Crowder said that a winter safety kit could include matches or a lighter, first aid kit, flares, flashlight/batteries, ice scraper, nonperishable food/beverages, warm clothing and/or blankets, jumper cables, extra washer fluid/antifreeze, some basic hand tools and your cell phone and

charger.

“It's important to know what to do before you are in an emergency in case you ever get stuck,” Crowder emphasized. “However, if you're stuck, don't leave your car for risk of losing it; don't run your car for long periods of time to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning and put your dome lights on to attract attention.”

ICC's Automotive Technology program prepares individuals to engage in the servicing and maintenance of all types of automobiles. Upon completion of the two-year curriculum, students are awarded an Associate of Applied Science degree, but those who successfully finish 30 hours in the discipline will receive a career certification.

ICC's Scheuer suggests preparation is key to holiday meals

Staff Reports

Can it be almost Christmas? Thanksgiving is behind us, but tis the season for food and stuffing more than just the turkey. There will be holiday parties, family gatherings and many opportunities for entertaining, all of which involve food and more food. The fare can range from fancy to home cooking, but no matter what the occasion, preparation tips and shortcuts are always appreciated.

Itawamba Community College Food Management Certification program director Christy Scheuer, who has catered numerous events in her career ranging from the most elegant to smaller, more intimate, has suggestions for family gatherings no matter how many Thanksgivings and Christmases you've celebrated together. She even has a recipe to share.

“Take time to sit down and plan what menu items you would like to prepare for your guests,” Scheuer said. “How many guests do you anticipate? Are there any dietary restrictions/allergies/preferences? Remember, most times, simple is best...There is no need to having five sides...three family favorites are perfect!”

She recommends selecting items that your family likes and you feel comfortable preparing. “If using new recipes, do a trial run in advance,” she suggests. Additional tips include assigning tasks to family members and letting people bring something even if it's rolls, a dessert or tea. “These items will not only save you time and space, but also allow them to help how they can. Embrace it!”

With the escalating costs of food prices, Scheuer



also reminds meal planners to ensure they are maximizing/repurposing all ingredients and potential leftovers. “Maybe your family isn't a huge fan of leftovers...no biggie,” she said. “Make turkey and wild rice soup with leftover turkey and veggies.”

Space and appliances also play a role in the success of a family dinner or any other event. “Make sure you create a menu that uses both your range and oven,” Scheuer advised. “This will reduce stress when trying to ensure all your items are ready at the same time.”

Preparation in advance is crucial,” she noted. “Make a list and triple check it. There's nothing more frustrating than tackling traffic and the crowds to realize you forgot a key ingredient for your dish. Take some extra time to inventory what you have and ensure all needed items are on your list. I like to stock

up early on shelf staple items I know I will use and are more popular during the holiday season. Then I do a last-minute run closer to time for any items I forgot as well as perishable items to ensure freshness.”

“Prep, prep, prep,” Scheuer advises. Whether this means chopping veggies a day ahead or making casseroles/dessert items that you can freeze in advance, letting you enjoy time with family and friends...isn't that ultimately what the season is about?” Additional tips include setting the table the day before to allow you more family and friends time.

And, finally, she said to RELAX! Everything doesn't have to be perfect. It's all about the time together...be sure to enjoy it!”

Among Scheuer's recipes is her “Easy Sausage Stuffed Mushrooms.” The ingredients include one package Jimmy Dean hot ground sausage (raw), one large container whole button mushrooms, pepperjack cheese and Italian seasoning. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Gently wash/wipe mushrooms clean and de-stem while keeping them whole. Generously stuff mushrooms with sausage and place on lined baking sheet. Bake mushrooms until sausage is fully cooked, approximately 15-20 minutes. Remove from oven and top with pepperjack cheese and sprinkle with Italian seasoning. Place back in oven and continue to bake until cheese is melted. Enjoy!

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

DECEMBER 4

*Decorate Christmas Cookies
with the Library
Noon-1:30 p.m.*

DECEMBER 4-7

*Final Exams for Traditional
Full-Term Night, eLearning Sec-
ond Eight-Week and eLearning
Four Week Classes*

DECEMBER 5-8

*Final Exams for Traditional
Full-Term Day Classes*

DECEMBER 6-7

*Final Exams for Traditional Sec-
ond Eight-Week classes*

DECEMBER 7

*Basketball Theme Night - Ugly
Christmas Sweater
Davis Event Center - Fulton
5:30-9:30 p.m.*

DECEMBER 9

*Christmas with the
North Mississippi Symphony
Orchestra featuring
the ICC Choir
Tupelo High School
Performing Arts Center
4 p.m.*

DECEMBER 15-JANUARY 2

*Christmas and New Year's
Holidays for Students
and Employees*

JANUARY 4

*Open Registration
Tupelo -
Academic and Student Center
8 a.m.-6 p.m.
Fulton
David C. Cole Student Services
Building
8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.*

JANUARY 5

*Open Registration
Tupelo and Fulton
8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.*

JANUARY 8

*First Day of Class
for Traditional Full-Term
Day/Night and Traditional First
Eight-Week Classes*

JANUARY 9

*Last Day for Students
to Self-Register for Traditional
Full-Term Day/Night and Tradi-
tional First Eight-Week Classes*

JANUARY 10

*Late Registration Available
through Advising Center
for Traditional Full-Term
Day/Night Classes*

JANUARY 11

*Basketball Theme Night -
Wear ICC Colors
Davis Event Center - Fulton
5:30-9:30 p.m.*

JANUARY 15

*Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Holiday for Students and
Employees*

Nominations needed for Mr., Miss ICC, Hall of Fame

KYLE TRAYLOR

Chieftain Staff

The election of Mr. and Miss Itawamba Community College is scheduled for early next year as well as the prestigious Hall of Fame selection and announce-ment.

According to Taylor Tutor, co-ordinator of Student Activities, Mr. and Miss ICC "represent ICC with engagement in college activi-ties, integrity, leadership/service and service to others."

Students who demonstrate those qualities can be nominated by an ICC employee or they may request a member of the college's faculty and staff to submit their name.

Nominations close Jan. 12 at noon.

Voting for the top three candi-dates after interviews with the Student Honors committee will be on myTribe. The College's cabinet will select the six ICC employees



Emma Grace Allen, Tykez Daniels, Mr. and Miss ICC 2023

who will serve on the committee.

Voting will start at 8 a.m. and end at 3 p.m., Feb. 13.

ICC's Hall of Fame includes the 12 most prestigious students at ICC. Qualifications include a 3.0 or higher GPA.

The 12 selected include four

from the Fulton Campus, four from the Tupelo Campus, two from Health Sciences and two from Career Education.

As with Mr. and Miss ICC, the students are nominated by ICC employees. The deadline is Jan. 12.

Housing check out this week

As the fall semester winds down, the hustle and activity of resi-dence hall checkout be-gins, marks an end to another semester at ICC.

Residence halls close at 4:30 p.m., Dec. 8, and reopen January 7 at 1 p.m.

Checkout for those who are not returning in January must be completed correctly, ac-cording to Kaitlyn Stan-field, coordinator of housing and residence life. Once students are ready to check out, they must have all their items removed and have a clean, swept room.

Stanfield said that the next step is meeting with their hall director or RA, turning in their room key and electron-ically signing their in-ventory sheet to check out.

"Any damage that needs immediate atten-tion should be reported to the Hall Director when it happens," Stan-field said. Other dam-age should be reported at check out.

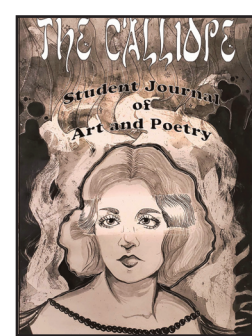
Stanfield said that

students must schedule the checkout time in advance. - **Breana Nix, Chieftain Staff Writer**

Alumni officers begin second year

Officers of ICC's Alumni Association began the second year of their term Oct. 5.

They include direc-tor Melba Applewhite of Amory; director Bunky Goza of Caledo-nia; director Michelle Sutton of Ecrú; presi-dent-elect Joey Cox, di-rector Dan McCrimon, both of Fulton; presi-dent John Lee Lyles, di-rectors Stacy Chapman and Bobby Mooney-ham, all of Houston; di-rector Dr. Amanda Summers of Mantachie; secretary-treasurer Donna Thomas and di-rectors Jeff Cagle and Brandy Evans, all of New Albany; immedi-ate past president Chuck Howell of Ponto-toc; and directors Tammy Harrington and Jamie Osborn, both of Tupelo.



Calliope features student work

The work of several ICC students will be featured in The Calliope during the 2024 spring semester.

The poets and their work include Lillyan Madrid, "Untitled," Carmen Birmingham, "The love I bestow and share," Tytianna Brooks, "Pain;" Anna Thomas, "D.N.H.;" Lil-lie Palmer, "I am fire;" Sara Davis, "Exalted in the Highest;" Nailah Slatter, "Memories;" Crissen McCoy, "On My Own;" James Ross, "Spring Festival;" and Kent Humphries, "Just Pretend."

The Calliope is ICC's literary magazine. Edi-tors are art instructor Shawn Whittington and English instructor Keith Morris.

THE NEWS



**Open
house**
**Aberdeen Mayor
Charles Scott,
center; Teresa
Reed and ICC
President Dr. Jay
Allen participate
in an open house
for the new loca-
tion of the Ab-
erdeen adult
education class.**

getinvolved@iccms.edu



FYI

MAKE A NOTE OF IT

JUST A REMINDER...

Review lockdown procedures

ICC's faculty, staff and students are urged to re-view campus lockdown procedures.

"The procedures are meant to be very simple because at the point of a lockdown, the major concern is the safety of all of the individuals in the campus community," said Dr. Brad Boggs, vice president of student services.

Notifications will be communicated via ICC ALERT, email and the Emergency Information Web page.

Upon notification of campus lockdown, everyone must react immediately.

The procedures include

- 1) Lock all doors and windows.
- 2) Close all blinds.
- 3) Turn off lights.
- 4) Use room furnishings to barricade doors and as protection.
- 5) Everyone should sit on the floor, away from doors and windows.
- 6) Make no noise.
- 7) Remain in lockdown until it is cleared with a notice via ICC ALERT or the police/administrator gives te ALL CLEAR code.

In addition, these are procedures in the event of severe weather conditions or evacuation.

Individuals should check ICC's website, www.iccms.edu, for information. It's located under Campus Safety on the home page.

Sign up for ICC ALERT

ICC provides a mass notification system called ICC ALERT.

Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to participate in the free service.

ICC ALERT has been utilized for inclement weather situations when classes and offices were closed due to snow and icing conditions and when storms threatened

the area.

To sign up to receive emergency messages through ICC ALERT: 1) Log on to the myTribe portal using your name and password; 2) Click ICC ALERT system in the link section on the bottom right; 3) Log in with your same username and password as myTribe to add/update your information.

For assistance with technical issues, contact the TIS Help Desk at (662) 862-8295 or via email at helpdesk@iccms.edu.

Litter-free

Everyone is reminded to use trash receptacles for litter. It's up to all of us to show our pride by ensuring that all three locations are litter-free.

No noise

Unnecessary noise is banned at Itawamba Community College, including loud music, yelling and screaming.

Students who are found guilty of noise violations will be fined, and the fine will double with each successive violation.

Campus Police

ICC-Belden...662.687.2752

ICC-Fulton...662.687.2750

ICC-Tupelo...662.687.2751

**For more information
about ICC emergency
procedures...
www.iccms.edu**



ICC Surgical Technology clinical coordinator Jennifer McCoy and program director Alicia Thornton demonstrate the proper procedures for students Lauren Long and Fredreka Collins in the lab at the Tupelo Campus. - Photo by C.J. Adams

ICC Surgical Technology students prepare to be 'unsung heroes'

Staff Reports

In the 1940s, surgical technology became an official career path due to the demands of operating rooms in World War II although the first public use of anesthesia was in 1846.

BECOMING A PRIORITY

Extreme cleanliness and sterilization weren't normal household words until COVID-19's extensive global impact. Masks and hand sanitizers became the norm for every individual as well as using cleaning solutions to prevent the spread of disease in homes across the world. However, those words, cleanliness and sterilization, have always been a significant part of the vocabulary of Surgical Technologists, who have made them a priority since the late 1800s.

With this awareness comes an enhanced appreciation of the unsung heroes of operating rooms worldwide.

WHO ARE

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGISTS?

According to the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science, individuals who are interested in becoming a Surgical Technologist must be detail-oriented since errors could be life-threatening. Additional qualities include working well under pressure and having

great communication skills.

Surgical Technologists serve as members of the surgical team and work with surgeons, anesthesiologists and certified registered nurse anesthetists, registered nurses and other surgical personnel in delivering patient care and assuming appropriate responsibilities before, during and after surgery. They prepare the room, instruments and equipment, an important role in healthcare.

LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Among those who have selected that career is Bryanna Petty of Bruce, a student in ICC's Surgical Technology program. "My experience in the Surgical Technology program has been great so far. The instructors are very helpful, but my favorite part is being in the lab and having hands-on experience. My goal is to graduate from the program, become certified and get a surgical tech job, either traveling or specializing in orthopedics."

Classmate Gracie Cox of Pontotoc agrees. "The program has been very educational, and I have learned so much. I feel very prepared to go into the operating room. My favorite part would have to be the lab, although it can be very challenging." She said that

she is focusing on preparation for the clinical setting.

Students in ICC's program spend one year (three semesters) and upon successful completion of all required academic and program courses, they earn an Associate of Applied Science degree and are eligible to take the national credentialing exam to become a Certified Surgical Technologist. Registration opens in January for the next class.

"Surgical Technologists are a vital part of the operating room staff," said Alicia Thornton, ICC Surgical Technology program director. "There have been times when we've been referred to as 'the 'unsung heroes of the O.R.' We stand beside the surgeons on surgical procedures, predicting and anticipating their every needs. Oftentimes, we know what the surgeon needs before they even ask for it, and that's the beauty of being a Surgical Technologist."

UNSUNG HEROES

From the 1940s to 2023, times and methods have changed in all occupations, including Surgical Technology, but what remains the same is the skill, heart and caring of the true 'unsung heroes.'

ICC Humanities Teacher from page three

Additional honors included two third place regional placements with Winter Guard International. She received the Rookie of the Year award while marching color guard with the Spirit of Atlanta Drum Corps in 1993 and worked with ICC Impact, Magnolia and Colibri.

Colburn's most recent professional achievements were recipient of the 2020 Meritorious Excellence in Teaching and the 2019-20 Faculty Mentor awards.

She is a member of the honorary fraternity Phi Beta Mu, a lifetime member of Tau Beta Sigma, Northeast Mississippi Bandmasters Association, Mississippi Bandmasters Association, National Saxophone Alliance and Women Band Directors International.

She is active in St. Andrews Methodist Church in Amory, where she sings in the choir, volunteers for events and serves on the Lay Leadership committee.

She is also a member of the board of directors for Amory Strong, a 501©3 Disaster Recovery organization.

She is engaged to Tommy Griffith, and they will be married this month. She has three children, Claudia, 27; Ada Claire, 18 and Reason, 17.

Colburn will schedule a humanities-related presentation in the spring semester. The public will be invited.

ICC...The BEST!





Itawamba Community College is an open admission, comprehensive, publicly supported two-year institution primarily serving Chickasaw, Itawamba, Lee, Monroe and Pontotoc counties, while also being responsive to the instructional and economic development needs of the region.

Itawamba Community College fulfills its mission through 1) College-parallel, technical and career programs to prepare students to transfer or enter the workforce; 2) Continuing education and workforce pathways for individuals striving for professional growth or personal enrichment; 3) Strategic partnerships to provide student opportunities, meet business and industry needs and promote economic development; 4) Adult education programs committed to increasing the literacy level of the adult population, providing self-improvement opportunities, workforce readiness and/or high school equivalency; 5) Resources, including financial, physical and technological to advance educational purpose as well as traditional and online instructional services, student support services and business management; 6) Recruitment and employment of qualified personnel as well as provide ongoing opportunities for leadership growth and success in educational, career and personal goals.

Candidates for admission to academic and career education programs may be admitted by diploma - students are required to present an official transcript from a high school accredited by the appropriate state or regional accreditation association; by completing the appropriate number of Carnegie units; by successfully completing an acceptable high school equivalency test - students are required to have an official copy of the high school equivalency transcript mailed to the Director of Admissions; by advanced standing (college transfer students). Students graduating without a regular diploma (Occupational Diploma or Special Education Diploma) must successfully complete an acceptable high school equivalency test or qualify under a Mississippi Ability to Benefit State Process in order to be eligible for admission to Itawamba Community College. Some career education programs may have selective criteria for admission.

Itawamba Community College is an equal opportunity institution. The College strictly prohibits discrimination in its educational programs and activities, employment practices and admissions processes on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion, ethnicity, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, status as a U.S. veteran or other status protected by applicable law. For more information, contact the Vice President of Student Services, 602 West Hill Street, Fulton, MS 38843, 662.862.8271 or email TitleIXCoordinator@iccms.edu.

In compliance with Title Iv of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; TitleIX, Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Itawamba Community College makes available its curricular and extracurricular programs and its facilities to every qualified person regardless of race, sex, color, creed, national origin or disability.

Itawamba Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Community Colleges to award associate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404.670.4500 for questions about the accreditation of Itawamba Community College.

www.iccms.edu
662.862.8000

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(1-833-222-4338)

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COMPETE**
One Degree Better



Complete 2 Compete (C2C) is a state program designed to help Mississippi adults complete their college degrees and create a brighter future.



**Get
involved
@
ICC
TODAY!!**

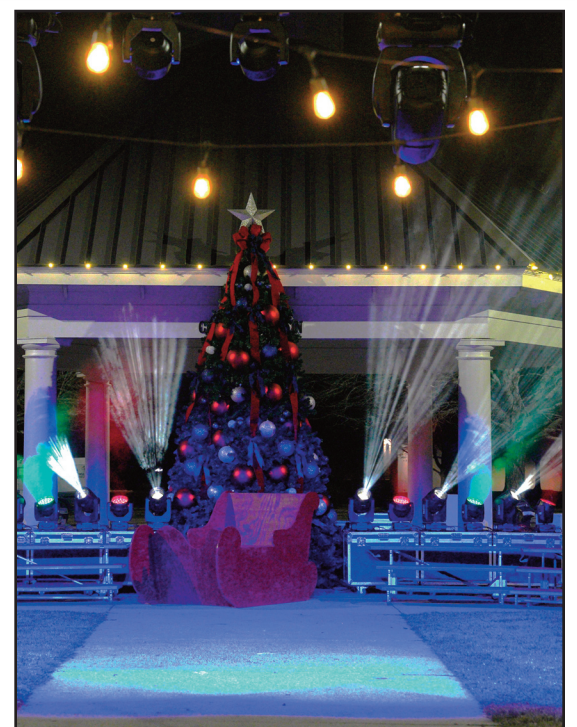
#thebeststartthere



Last week, Christmas was in the air at ICC with a tree lighting ceremony on Monday night and the Fulton Christmas parade on Thursday. ICC's All-American Band marched to the tune of Christmas carols, and its Candyland Christmas float won first place!



There's just something special about ICC Christmases



ICC Athletics on the Move

CAMPUS SPORTS

CHIEFTAIN/Page 12.....December 4, 2023



ICC's Charleston French, who earned All-MACCC first team honors, picks up yardage against the Jones Bobcats.

Seven ICC football players earn conference postseason honors

Staff Reports

Seven Itawamba Community College football players have been named to the Mississippi Association of Community Colleges Conference All-MACCC North Division Teams.

Freshman running back Charleston French received First Team honors, and freshman offensive lineman Terry Clayborn, Second Team. Punter Carson Langford, defensive back EJ Wadley, defensive lineman Jarquez Tucker, kicker Luke Jackson and offensive lineman Rodney Newsom were all named honorable mention.

French, who had a historic season for the Indians,

rushed for 924 yards and eight touchdowns, averaging 102.7 yards per game. He racked up 248 yards on the ground, along with three touchdowns in ICC's 30-25 win over Coahoma, the most rushing yards in a game since Richard McQuarley's 258 yards and three scores in a 38-19 win over Northeast in 2014.

Jackson finished with 82 field goal and 83 extra point percentages. He earned MACCC Special Team Player of the Week honors after connecting on all three field goals (longest 43 yards) and extra point attempts for 12 points in the Indians' win over Coahoma.

Langford booted 57 punts for 1,485 yards with six inside the 20. His punts averaged 26.1 yards per game with his longest for 49 yards against Northwest.

Tucker, who finished second highest on the team in sacks with four, also had 21 tackles, eight for loss and a forced fumble.

In his final season with the Indians, Wadley racked up 35 tackles and two interceptions, one a 50-yard return for a touchdown against Northwest.

Leading the offense, Clayborn and Newsom helped the Indians to 2,173 total yards.

Seven honored for season achievement

Staff Reports

Seven Itawamba Community College soccer players have been named All-MACCC.

LADY INDIANS

Four Lady Indians were named to the All-MACCC honorable mention list.

Asia Robinson, Lauren Sharples, Julia Benneckenstein and Melanie Huber were all recognized for their efforts this season.

Robinson recorded 122 saves (17 against Northwest in September) and allowed 33 goals during her freshman season with a .787 save percentage.

Sharples led the Lady Indians with 15 assists during her freshman season and recorded 10 goals and 30 shots. She had a hat trick in ICC's win over No. 13 Copiah-Lincoln, scoring three goals and recording two assists. She was named MACCC Women's Soccer Offensive



ICC's Russell Brown earned All-MACCC second-team honors.

Player of the Week for her performance in the 5-1 victory.

Benneckenstein had a team-best four game-winning goals this season for the Lady Indians against Pellissippi State, Union State, Southwest Tennessee and Pearl River.

Huber recorded five goals

during her final season at ICC, one against Gulf Coast which set a new single season record for team goals.

INDIANS

Three men's soccer players were named All-MACCC. Russell Brown, Alfredo Guerra and Gage Lashlee all received recog-

nition.

Brown, a freshman forward, received second team honors. He led the Indians with four assists and recorded five goals and 33 shots. For his performances against Southern Union State (one goal and one assist) and East Mississippi (two goals), he earned MACCC and NJCAA DII Men's Soccer Player of the Week. He also had the game-winning goal against East Central that advanced ICC to the Region 23 semifinals round.

Guerra and Lashlee earned all-conference honorable mention. Guerra recorded a .417 shot-on-goal percentage with a .427 percentage in conference play. Lashlee led the Indians with seven goals and 34 shots in his final season, three of which were game winners against Northwest, Holmes and East Central.

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#RollTribe

Tribe talk

ELIJAH COLEMAN
Sports Editor

In the realm of sports, athletes are often admired for their exceptional skills, dedication and determination on the field and court. However, many athletes also go above and beyond their professional careers, embracing their influential positions to make a positive impact on society. It is heartening to witness athletes, especially ICC's student-athletes, giving back to their communities, and it is even more inspiring when they actively participate in events such as the annual Celebration Village in Tupelo and Operation Christmas Child.

In fact, there is a list of the most charitable athletes worldwide. It includes Cristiano Ronaldo, Serena Willians, Lionel Messi, Michael Jordan, Colin Kapernick, Dale Earnhardt Jr., Eli Manning, Michael Phelps and Maria Sharapova.

Athletes have an enormous sphere of influence, and their actions can significantly impact the lives of others. By using their platform, athletes can raise awareness about important social issues and charitable causes. Whether they volunteer their time, donate funds or lend their brand name to support community-oriented initiatives, their involvement provides a much-needed catalyst for change. Athletes inspire, motivate and unite communities, creating a sense of hope and positivity that transcends the realm of sports.

While ICC's student-athletes don't have worldwide fame (yet anyway), they are getting an awesome start by assisting with local charities and benevolent organizations. They epitomize the spirit of giving back to their ICC community and beyond. Each year, they actively participate in Tupelo's Celebration Village, which benefits Sanctuary Hospice, lending their time, energy and resources to make a difference in the lives of those who ultimately benefit from that event. By dedicating their time to this event, they demonstrate the importance of community involvement and inspire others to follow suit.

Additionally, members of ICC's women's basketball team participated in the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child, which collects shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in communities, both in and outside the United States. The Lady Indians collected and delivered the shoe boxes to Dr.. Laurie McBride, project coordinator.

When athletes engage in community-centered initiatives, the benefits are manifold. It helps bridge the gap between the athlete and the fan, creating a sense of camaraderie and unity. Community members see their current and future sports idols as reliable individuals who genuinely care about the betterment of society. This connection fosters a stronger sense of community pride and inspires young individuals to work hard to achieve their dreams. Athlete involvement promotes inclusion, diversity and tolerance. By participating in events such as Celebration Village and Operation Christmas Child, ICC's student-athletes showcase the values of teamwork, respect and sportsmanship.

When athletes give back to their communities, they become role models and societal game-changers. The dedication and passion demonstrated by ICC athletes this and every year exemplify the power of sports to foster positive change.

You can do the same in your community!
Roll Tribe!



Bryson Dawkins



Arianna Durrell

Box Scores ICC Basketball

INDIANS

Nov. 1
Motlow State 75, ICC 67
High Scorer: Bryson Dawkins, 16

Nov. 3
ICC 108, Huntingdon College 57
High Scorer: Bryson Dawkins, 23

Nov. 7
ICC 90, Marion Military 74
High Scorer: Marcel Bridges, 17

Nov. 9
ICC 74, Stillman College 66
High Scorer: AJ Dent, 19

Nov. 13
ICC 83, Motlow State 61
High Scorer: AJ Dent, 17

Nov. 16
ICC 69, Beville State 48
High Scorer: Dayveun Anderson, Bryson Dawkins, 12 each

Nov. 18
ICC 86, Marion Military 70
High Scorer: Bryson Dawkins, 21

Nov. 27
ICC 92, Stillman College 42
High Scorer: Bryson Dawkins, 23

Nov. 28
ICC 72, Arkansas St. MS 54
High Scorer: Tyson Daniel, 13

LADY INDIANS

Nov. 1
ICC 68, Motlow State 62
High Scorer: Arianna Durrell, 14

Nov. 3
ICC 95, Huntingdon College 53
High Scorer: Addison Howell, 18

Nov. 6
ICC 66, Columbia State 40
High Scorer: Arianna Durrell, 14

Nov. 13
ICC 82, Freed-Hardeman 44
High Scorer: Addison Howell, 16

Nov. 20
ICC 80, Columbia State 54
High Scorer: Arianna Durrell, 16

Nov. 28
ICC 81, Arkansas State - MS 56

December 7 ICC to honor All-American Heroes

Staff Reports

Both past and current members of the armed forces, first responders and healthcare professionals will be honored during Itawamba Community College's All-

American Heroes Night, Dec. 7, at the Davis Event Center at the Fulton Campus during ICC's basketball game with Calhoun.

Admission is free to all past and current

armed forces members and healthcare professionals, first responders and their families.

They will be recognized prior to the men's game, which begins at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Collin Minga, assistant athletic director/compliance coordinator, at cdminga@iccms.edu or (662) 862-8158.

Itawamba Community College Sports...

MEN'S BASKETBALL

12.04	@Ark. State	7:30 p.m.
12.07	Calhoun	7:30 p.m.
01.06	@Jackson St.	3 p.m.
01.11	Talladega JV	7:20 p.m.
01.13	W. Ky. Tech.	3:30 p.m.
01.18	Holmes	7:30 p.m.
01.22	@Jones	7:30 p.m.
01.25	Miss. Delta	7:30 p.m.
01.29	@Northeast	7:30 p.m.
02.01	Pearl River	7:30 p.m.
02.05	@Coahoma	7:30 p.m.
02.08	East Central	7:30 p.m.

02.12	@Hinds	7:30 p.m.
02.20	Meridian	7:30 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

12.02	@Freed-Hard.	1 p.m.
12.04	@Ark. State	5:30 p.m.
12.07	Calhoun	5:30 p.m.
01.11	East Miss.	5:30 p.m.
01.18	Holmes	5:30 p.m.
01.22	@Jones	5 p.m.
01.25	Miss. Delta	5:30 p.m.
01.29	@Northeast	5:30 p.m.

02.01	Pearl River	5:30 p.m.
02.05	@Coahoma	5:30 p.m.
02.08	East Central	5:30 p.m.
02.12	@Hinds	5:30 p.m.
02.20	Meridian	7:30 p.m.

BASEBALL

1.11.24	@Bevill-Fayette	noon
2.8.24	@Calhoun	noon
2.10.24	Calhoun	noon
2.16.24	@USA	TBA
2.20.24	@Holmes/PR	noon
2.24.24	Snead State	1 p.m.
2.28.24	@NW	TBA

SOFTBALL

1.26.24	@Sand Mtn.	TBD
2.2.24	@Pensacola St.	TBD
2.3.24	@NW Fla.	Noon
2.10.24	No. Iowa	1 p.m.
2.13.24	@Wallace St.	1 p.m.
2.16.24	So. Suburban/Northeast	1 p.m.
2.17.24	So. Suburban/Northeast	1 p.m.

ON THE SCHEDULE

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*Merry Christmas
from the Chieftain staff!*

Elijah Coleman - Shelby Franks
Alea Hudson - Breana Nix
Mackenzie Sneed - Kyle Traylor
Donna Thomas